

The Senate Committee on Public Safety offered the following substitute to HB 459:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

To amend Part 5 of Article 22 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to school buses, so as to provide for a driver's license verification system for school bus drivers; to require participation by local boards of education; to provide for data submission; to provide for rules and regulations; to provide for coordination among the Department of Public Safety, the Georgia Technology Authority, and the Department of Driver Services; to amend Code Section 50-18-72 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to when public disclosure not required, so as to provide that records maintained for such verification system shall not be subject to public disclosure; to amend Article 23 of Chapter 2 of Title 20, Chapter 1 of Title 35, and Article 1 of Chapter 6 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to traffic safety, general provisions for law enforcement officers and agencies, and general provisions regarding the uniform rules of the road, respectively, so as to authorize certain personnel employed by or volunteering for law enforcement agencies or fire departments to assist in directing and regulating the flow of traffic and to clarify provisions relating thereto; to provide for training requirements; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

**PART I**  
**SECTION 1-1.**

Part 5 of Article 22 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to school buses, is amended by revising Code Section 20-2-1127, which is reserved, as follows:

"20-2-112.

(a) Each local board of education employing or using persons as school bus drivers shall submit to the Department of Public Safety the full name and driver's license number of every person who is to be employed or used as a school bus driver prior to authorizing such

person to operate a school bus. Such local board of education shall provide an updated list to the Department of Public Safety twice within a calendar year as provided for in rules and regulations promulgated by the commissioner of public safety.

(b) The Department of Public Safety shall operate and maintain a data base of the names and license information of the persons provided for in subsection (a) of this Code section and, in coordination with the Georgia Technology Authority and the Department of Driver Services for immediate electronic furnishing of information, shall confirm or verify the status of each such person's driver's license and provide notification to the appropriate local board of education if such person's driver's license or driving privileges have expired or been canceled, suspended, or revoked.

(c)(1) Upon notice that a person's driver's license or driving privileges have expired or been canceled, suspended, or revoked, the local board of education shall suspend or revoke the authorization it has given to such person to drive a school bus and inform such person of, and reason for, the suspension or revocation.

(2) Any person authorized to drive a school bus by a local board of education shall notify the local board of education if such person's driver's license or driving privileges have expired or been canceled, suspended, or revoked.

(3) A person's whose authorization to drive a school bus has been suspended or revoked by a local board of education pursuant to this Code section may request a new authorization to drive a school bus upon the reinstatement of his or her driver's license or driving privileges. Reserved."

## SECTION 1-2.

Code Section 50-18-72 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to when public disclosure not required, is amended by adding a new paragraph to read as follows:

"(25.2) Records of a person's name and driver's license information collected and maintained for purposes of Code Section 20-2-1127."

## PART II

### SECTION 2-1.

Article 23 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to traffic safety, is amended by revising Code Section 20-2-1131, relating to direction of traffic by school-crossing guards, as follows:

"20-2-1131.

Any person who is a school-crossing guard designated by a local law enforcement agency as set forth in Code Section 35-1-11 shall be authorized to direct and regulate the flow of

60 traffic at school crossings or within a reduced speed school zone during the time when ~~such~~  
61 ~~school-crossing guard~~ he or she is on duty."

## 62 SECTION 2-2.

63 Chapter 1 of Title 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general  
64 provisions for law enforcement officers and agencies, is amended by revising Code Section  
65 35-1-11, relating to police volunteers for traffic control, as follows:

66 "35-1-11.

67 ~~A police chief~~ An elected sheriff or police chief of a local law enforcement agency or fire  
68 chief of a local fire department, with the approval of the local governing authority, shall  
69 be authorized to designate, ~~and equip police, and train nonsworn law enforcement~~  
70 employees and firefighters and volunteers and to provide training to such police volunteers  
71 ~~in the area and manner of~~ to assist in traffic control, provided that such individuals have  
72 successfully completed at least one hour of a traffic control training program approved by  
73 the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council. With the approval of the  
74 sheriff or police chief of a local law enforcement agency or fire chief of a local fire  
75 department, a police volunteer such individuals shall be authorized to direct and regulate  
76 the flow of traffic, ~~in the event of a fire, explosion, hurricane, tornado, or other emergency~~  
77 ~~situation. A police volunteer~~ Any such individual who is not certified pursuant to the  
78 requirements of Chapter 8 of this title shall not have the power of arrest provided to peace  
79 officers."

## 80 SECTION 2-3.

81 Article 1 of Chapter 6 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
82 general provisions regarding the uniform rules of the road, is amended by revising Code  
83 Section 40-6-2, relating to obedience to authorized persons directing traffic, as follows:

84 "40-6-2.

85 No person shall fail or refuse to comply with any lawful order or direction of any ~~police~~  
86 ~~officer~~, law enforcement officer or firefighter, police nonsworn employee or volunteer  
87 authorized under Code Section 35-1-11, or school-crossing guard individual designated by  
88 ~~a local law enforcement agency invested by law~~ under Code Section 20-2-1131 with the  
89 authority to direct, control, or regulate traffic."

## 90 PART III

## 91 SECTION 3-1.

92 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.